

House Bill No. 6952

Public Act No. 07-13

AN ACT CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY FOR BURIAL IN A STATE VETERANS' CEMETERY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 27-122b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

- (a) As used in this section, [: (1) "Armed forces" includes the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force or Coast Guard or any women's auxiliary branch thereof, organized pursuant to an Act of Congress; and (2)] "veteran" means any person (1) honorably discharged from, or released under honorable conditions from, active service in the [armed forces] United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force or Coast Guard or any women's auxiliary branch thereof, organized pursuant to an Act of Congress; (2) who has completed at least twenty years of service in the Connecticut National Guard; or (3) who was killed in action, or who died as a result of accident or illness sustained while performing active service, in the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force or Coast Guard or any women's auxiliary branch thereof, organized pursuant to an Act of Congress, or in the Connecticut National Guard.
 - (b) (1) Any veteran may, by letter or other communication

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addressed to the commissioner, or by will, request that upon his or her death his or her body be buried in [said] <u>a</u> veterans' cemetery <u>established pursuant to section 27-122a</u>, or (2) the spouse or other next of kin may apply to the commissioner to have the body of such veteran buried in said veterans' cemetery, and in either case such request shall be granted.

- (c) The spouse of any veteran shall, upon similar request or application made to the commissioner, be buried in said veterans' cemetery provided only one such request or application shall be granted.
- (d) The commissioner shall designate an area in said veterans' cemetery for veterans who, for religious reasons, require burial in a consecrated area.

Approved May 7, 2007